

# **ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

## **OMNIBUS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009 PUBLIC LAW 111-8**

### **REPORT LANGUAGE**

#### **PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS**

The bill includes \$2,759,078,000 for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support programs, which is \$238,892,000 below the fiscal year 2008 level and the same as the budget request.

#### **LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE**

Public Law 110-329, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009, provided fiscal year 2009 funding of \$5,100,000,000 for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance program (LIHEAP), which is \$2,529,672,000 above the fiscal year 2008 level and \$3,100,000,000 over the budget request. As a result, this bill does not include funding for LIHEAP.

#### **REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE**

The bill includes \$633,442,000 for Refugee and Entrant Assistance programs, which is \$22,189,000 below the fiscal year 2008 level and \$5,398,000 above the budget request. With carryover funds, a total of \$685,493,000 will be available for these programs. In addition, the bill includes language providing for availability of funds through September 30, 2011 to reimburse the costs of services for all programs within the jurisdiction of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). ORR is requested to provide adequate funding under Transitional and Medical Assistance to unaccompanied refugee minor programs for capacity development so that they have the necessary infrastructure to accommodate increasing numbers of unaccompanied and separated refugee children.

Within the funds provided for Social Services, the bill includes \$19,000,000 for continued support to communities with large concentrations of Cuban and Haitian entrants of varying ages whose cultural differences make assimilation especially difficult, justifying a more intense level and longer duration of Federal assistance.

The Administration on Children and Families (ACF) is requested to continue to adequately fund refugee school impact grants.

In conjunction with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is directed to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations

(Committees) no later than March 1, 2009, recommending which agency is the most appropriate to fund the transportation of unaccompanied alien children (UAC) between DHS and HHS custody. This joint report shall focus on which agency can deliver these services in the most cost effective manner. In addition, starting no later than September 1, 2009, the ORR, in conjunction with Immigration and Customs Enforcement, should provide semi-annual briefings to the Committees on the implementation of the recommendations. For fiscal year 2009, the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009, provides sufficient resources to DHS to pay for this transportation function.

With regard to the UAC program, ORR is directed to respond to the DHS initial call for placement by identifying the ORR placement facility to DHS within six hours, on average, of receiving the DHS call. In addition, ORR shall continue to work with DHS to expedite the transfer and placement of these special needs children in the most appropriate facility as quickly as possible.

Within funds for the UAC program, \$5,050,000 is provided to continue the pro bono legal services initiative to ensure legal representation of all UAC. These funds should be used to train attorneys to detect abuse, mistreatment, labor exploitation, and trafficking of these children. In addition, a portion of these funds should be used to train attorneys in methods that will ensure the appearance of children at all immigration court hearings. ORR is expected to use part of these funds to assess the overall impact of the pro bono legal services initiative, including the number and proportion of UAC provided pro bono legal representation. The bill includes \$9,050,000 more than the budget request for the UAC program to ensure that sufficient funds are available for UAC medical and transportation services.

## **PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

The bill includes \$2,127,081,000 for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, which is \$65,000,000 above the fiscal year 2008 level and the budget request. The bill designates \$18,960,000 for child care resource and referral and school-aged child care activities, \$1,000,000 for the Child Care Aware toll-free hotline, \$271,401,000 for an additional amount for activities authorized under section 658G, including \$99,534,000 to improve the quality of infant and toddler care, and \$9,910,000 for child care research, demonstration, and evaluation activities.

## **SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT**

The bill includes \$1,700,000,000 for the Social Services Block Grant, which is the same as the fiscal year 2008 level. The amended budget request did not include any funds for this program.

## CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

The bill includes \$9,301,111,000 for Children and Families Services Programs. This amount is \$330,620,000 above the fiscal year 2008 level and \$807,901,000 above the budget request. In addition, \$10,217,000 is provided through the evaluation set-aside.

The bill provides \$7,112,786,000 for Head Start activities, which is a program level increase of \$234,810,000 above the fiscal year 2008 level. Within the total, the bill designates \$2,000,000 for centers of excellence in early childhood education authorized by section 657B of the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act, 2007. The ACF Head Start Bureau shall continue to provide the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations (Committees) with the number and cost of buses purchased, by region, with Head Start funds in the annual Congressional budget justifications. In addition, ACF is requested to report to the Committees on fiscal year 2009 funding allocations to Migrant and Seasonal and Indian Head Start and provide a briefing to the Committees within 30 days of the release of the study on these targeted populations required under the Head Start Act. Within the amount provided in the bill for Child Abuse Discretionary Activities, \$13,500,000 is provided to expand the home visitation initiative. These funds shall support continuing and new competitive grants to States to encourage investment of existing funding streams into evidence-based home visitation models that have been shown to improve the health, well-being, and self-sufficiency of low-income, first-time parents and their children. As in fiscal year 2008, ACF shall ensure that these funds support models that have been shown in well-designed, randomized controlled trials to produce sizeable, sustained effects on important child outcomes such as reductions in abuse and neglect. Funds shall support activities to assist a range of home visitation programs to replicate the techniques that have met these high evidentiary standards. In carrying out this initiative, ACF is instructed to adhere closely to evidence-based models of home visitation. ACF shall not incorporate any additional initiatives that have not met these high evidentiary standards or might otherwise dilute the emphasis on home visitation.

The bill also includes \$500,000 within Child Abuse Discretionary Activities for a feasibility study on the creation, development, and maintenance of a national child abuse and neglect offender registry.

Within the \$16,910,000 included in the bill, \$2,412,000 shall be used for the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Amount
Addison County Parent/Child Center, Middlebury, Vermont, to support and expand parental education activities	\$238,000
Anchorage's Promise, Anchorage, AK, for a child mentoring and support program	109,000
Athens-Limestone County, Athens, AL for its child advocacy center	48,000
Catholic Community Services, Juneau, AK, to implement child abuse delivery programs in Southeast Alaska	381,000
County of Contra Costa, Martinez, CA for an initiative for children and adolescents exposed to domestic violence	428,000

Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County, New Castle, PA, for abuse victim services	95,000
Family and Children's Services Division of Clark County Department of Jobs and Family Services, Springfield, OH for training, support and program management for child and adolescent trauma issues	95,000
Family Resources Center, St. Louis, MO for its Child Abuse Reduction Pilot Program	285,000
Jeffrey Foundation, Los Angeles, CA for child care food and other services for special needs children	105,000
Olive Crest, Las Vegas, NV for the Strong Families, Safe Kids program	190,000
Women's Center of San Joaquin County, Stockton, CA for children's advocacy, crisis intervention, counseling, and other services for children who are victims of sexual assault	238,000
Young Women's Resource Center, Des Moines, IA, for a child abuse prevention training program	200,000

For Adoption Awareness, the bill provides \$12,953,000, of which \$10,058,000 is for the Infant Adoption Awareness Training Program and \$2,895,000 is for the Special Needs Adoption Campaign.

Within the \$16,910,000 included in the bill, \$14,498,000 shall be used for the following projects in the following amounts:

Project	Amount
180 Turning Lives Around, Inc., Hazlet, NJ for its child and teen violence reduction and treatment project.	238,000
A+ for Abstinence, Waynesboro, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
AAdvantage Foundation, Inc., North Strabane, PA to improve support services for the disabled.	95,000
Action for Bridgeport Community Development, Inc., Bridgeport, CT for the Total Learning Program.	190,000
Agudath Israel of America, Community Services, Inc., for a mentoring program for at-risk youth of children of prisoners.	190,000
Asian Americans for Community Involvement, San Jose, CA for operating expenses for a domestic violence shelter.	309,000
Borromeo Housing, Inc., Arlington, VA for its Elizabeth House Program to serve homeless adolescent mothers and their infants.	143,000
Burdman Group, Inc., Youngstown, OH for its Sojourner House domestic violence services program.	95,000
Catholic Social Services, Wilkes Barre, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Cherokee County Commission, Centre, AL for social service and family support programs.	95,000
Child Center of New York, Woodside, NY for early childhood education and intervention services for children and their families.	95,000
Child Guidance Resource Center, Havertown, PA for services for autistic children.	57,000
Children's Rehabilitation Center, Warren, OH for an initiative to implement a multi-disciplinary approach to providing services for families of children with disabilities.	124,000
Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, Boynton, FL for evaluation and implementation of a nurse family partnership home visitation program.	95,000
City of Chester, Bureau of Health, Chester, PA, for abstinence education and	24,000

related services.	
City of Ft. Worth, TX for the Early Childhood Matters Initiative.	285,000
City of Los Angeles, CA for its Young Women from Adversity to Resiliency Program.	285,000
City of Norwich, New London, CT for services to pregnant and parenting adolescents and their families.	81,000
Connecticut Council of Family Service Agencies, Wethersford, CT, for the Empowering People for Success welfare-to-work initiative.	381,000
County of Monterey Probation Department, Salinas, CA for the Silver Star Gang Prevention and Intervention Program.	1,427,000
County of Solano, Fairfield, CA for an initiative to provide doula and/or parenting coaches for low-income pregnant, post-partum and parenting women.	119,000
Creative Visions in Des Moines, IA, for a family unification project for incarcerated individuals.	143,000
Crozer Chester Medical Center, Upland, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Crystal Stairs, Inc., Los Angeles, CA for its Special Needs Advisory Project to increase early childhood care and education opportunities for children with special needs.	95,000
Deschutes County Family Access Network, Bend, OR, for social service programs.	238,000
Desormaux Foundation, Lafayette, LA, for parenting skills programs for expectant mothers.	95,000
Diaper Bank, New Haven, CT for services to at-risk children in childcare centers.	133,000
Dickinson Mental Health Center, Ridgeway, PA to develop programming for children diagnosed with autism.	119,000
Elijah's Promise, New Brunswick, NJ, for the Healthy Kitchens-Healthy Lives program.	48,000
Family Services and Childrens Aid Society, Oil City, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Family, Inc., Council Bluffs, IA, for the FAMILY program.	333,000
First 5 Alameda County, San Leandro, CA for its children's screening, assessment, referral, and treatment initiative.	476,000
Guidance Center, Ridgeway, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Horizons for Homeless Children, Lawrence, MA for programs for homeless children.	95,000
Horizons for Homeless Children, Roxbury, MA, for continued development of programs designed to support homeless children.	143,000
Humility of Mary Health Partnere, Youngstown, OH for a teen parent program.	285,000
Iowans for Social and Economic Development (ISED), for a Comprehensive Asset Development Project.	190,000
Jordan New Life Hub, Minneapolis, MN for life skills training, mentoring, case management, referral and other services for at-risk individuals and families.	190,000
Katie Brown Educational Program, Barrington, RI for a youth relationship violence prevention initiative.	95,000
Keystone Central School District, Mill Hall, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Keystone Economic Development Corporation, Johnstown, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Kids Oneida Inc., Utica, NY for a community intervention plan to address child and youth abuse and neglect.	48,000
LaSalle University, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Local Initiatives Support Coalition Rhode Island, Providence, RI, for child care	190,000

professional development and programmatic activities.	
Logan Communities Resources, Inc., South Bend, IN for its Regional Autism Center.	143,000
Louisiana Association of United Ways, New Orleans, LA, to expand the capacity of the Louisiana 2-1-1 system.	381,000
Marcus Institute, Atlanta, GA, for services for children and adolescents with developmental disabilities.	95,000
Minot State University, Minot, ND for its Great Plains Autism Treatment Program to serve children with autism spectrum disorders.	761,000
Missouri Bootheel Regional Consortium, Portageville, MO for the Fatherhood First program.	476,000
My Choice, Inc., Athens, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Inc., HEMPSTEAD, NY, to provide legal services to low-income victims of domestic violence.	381,000
National Energy Assistance Director's Association, Washington, DC for research and information dissemination related to the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.	190,000
Neighborhood United Against Drugs, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
New Brighton School District, Brighton, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Nueva Esperanza, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Ohio United Way, Columbus, OH, to expand the capacity of the 2-1-1 system.	381,000
One Family, Inc., Boston, MA, for continued development of programs designed to end family homelessness.	238,000
Progressive Believers Ministries, Glenside, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Providence House, Shreveport, LA to provide outcomes-based child care services to homeless pre-school children.	247,000
School District of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Shepard's Maternity House, Inc., East Stroudsburg, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Sheriff's Youth Programs of Minnesota, Inver Grove Heights, MN, for services for foster children and families and for professional development for staff.	200,000
Simpson College, Indianola, IA, for Urban Studies Institute.	190,000
SingleStop USA, New York, NY for a project in San Francisco, CA to improve the access of low-income households to services.	190,000
Southern Penobscot Regional Program for Children with Exceptionalities, Bangor, ME, for services for families with autistic children.	190,000
Space Coast Early Intervention Center, Melbourne, FL for after-school childcare programs for children with disabilities.	428,000
St. Mary's Home for Children, North Providence, RI for services for abused children.	190,000
Starr Commonwealth, Detroit, MI for its Structured Therapeutic Living Program for developmentally disabled and at-risk youth and young adults.	95,000
Survivors of Torture, International, San Diego, CA for medical, dental, psychological, and social services to victims of torture.	95,000
Susanna Wesley Family Learning Center, East Prairie, MO for programs to assist at-risk youth and their families.	238,000
Tender Care Pregnancy Crisis Center, Inc., Hanover, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
The Jimmie Hale Mission, Birmingham, AL, for services for homeless families.	95,000
TLC for Children and Families, Inc., Olathe, KS, for a transitional living	190,000

program for at-risk youth.	
Tuscarora Intermediate Unit, McVeytown, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
United Way of the Capital Area, Jackson, MS, for 2-1-1 Mississippi for social services programs.	238,000
University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO for its Midwest Clinic for Autism Spectrum Disorders.	285,000
University of Toledo, OH for its Center for Excellence in Autism for autism spectrum disorder service programs.	476,000
Urban Family Council, Philadelphia, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Washington Hospital Teen Outreach, Washington, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Watts Labor Community Action Committee, Los Angeles, CA for its Reading As Enablement to Reclaim Ourselves project to provide literacy, mentoring, and other services to individuals in shelters.	95,000
Women's Care Center of Erie County, Inc., Erie, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
York County Human Life Services, York, PA, for abstinence education and related services.	24,000
Zuni Tribe, Zuni, NM, for a program to assist foster children.	262,000

Within the amount for Projects of National Significance, the bill provides \$2,000,000 for the purposes of providing and promoting leadership training by and for families with children with disabilities, as described in section 202(b)(2) of the Families of Children with Disabilities Support Act of 2000. Such training shall be designed to increase access to and availability of family support services and must address policy development, implementation and evaluation of family support services for families with children with disabilities. To maximize the sustainability of the outcomes of the leadership training supported by these funds, the Secretary shall distribute these funds as competitive grants to one or more national non-profit organizations with demonstrated capacity at the State and local level to foster and provide direct services to families with children with disabilities.

The bill provides a \$1,000,000 increase over the fiscal year 2008 level for the University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, which may be used to provide a cost-of-living adjustment to existing centers and to establish new grants to work through partnerships with minority-serving institutions. These new grants, if awarded, will focus research, training and services on minority populations with disabilities.

The bill provides a \$1,500,000 increase over the fiscal year 2008 level for activities authorized under section 803C(b)(7)(A)-(C) of the Native American Programs Act (as added by the Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act of 2006).

With regard to the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), ACF is directed to allocate \$500,000 of CSBG training and technical assistance funds for a national community economic development training and capacity development initiative. Successful implementation of community development programs requires significant investment in high-quality board and staff training and proven technical assistance. This funding will enable community action agency leaders to attain the professional skills needed to

undertake projects to enhance their communities' future security through financing and implementing innovative housing, economic and community development partnerships.

The bill includes language clarifying Congressional intent regarding disposition of intangible assets--including loans and investments--acquired under the community economic development authority of the CSBG Act. The bill continues the policy in place since 1999 that establishes a regulatory period of up to 12 years after the end of the grant period. During that period, as the grantee receives repayments or program income from these loans or investments, the grantee is permitted to recycle these funds into other similar projects. After that time, the intangible assets and program income become the property of the grantee provided they are used in a manner consistent with the intent of the authorizing statute. The bill clarifies that recycled and repaid loan or investment funds or program income may be used in any low-income community for any eligible purpose under the law and is not restricted to the original target area, financing, or type of project for which the grantee was originally funded. The language applies not only to new grantees but also to grantees for whom the post-grant period has reached a point at which the disposition of intangible assets must be made.

Funds provided in the bill for the Rural Community Facilities program shall be used solely for the purpose of improving water and wastewater facilities in poor, rural communities. As in the past, these funds should be allocated to regional rural community assistance programs. The ACF Office of Community Services is expected to remedy during fiscal year 2009 a failure (1) to report on progress made in remedying oversight deficiencies identified by the Government Accountability Office and (2) to comply with a fiscal year 2005 Congressional directive to implement a training and technical assistance needs assessment and delivery plan in consultation with CSBG State and local eligible entities. The bill provides funds for Abstinence Education as defined in section 510(b)(2) of the Social Security Act and includes language precluding grantees who receive abstinence education funding from discussing with adolescents any other education regarding sexual conduct in the same setting as abstinence education. It also requires that information provided through abstinence education grants shall be scientifically accurate and comply with section 317P(c)(2) of the Public Health Service Act.

Further, the bill provides that up to \$10,000,000 may be used to carry out a national abstinence education campaign and \$4,455,000 shall be available from section 241 Public Health Service Act evaluation funds to carry out evaluations of adolescent pregnancy prevention approaches. Finally, up to 5 percent of funds may be set aside for technical assistance and capacity-building, which shall be used to ensure that programs are using evidence-based curricula that comply with statutory requirements.

Within Program Administration, the bill includes \$1,500,000 for the National Commission on Children and Disasters. The funds included in this bill may be used for personnel, travel, and any other necessary expenses of the Commission. The Commission is expected to build on the evaluations of other entities and avoid unnecessary duplication, by reviewing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of various commissions, Federal, State, and local governments, and nongovernmental



entities as to the needs of children as they relate to preparation for, response to, and recovery from all hazards, including major disasters and emergencies. ACF is requested to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the progress of the Commission within one year of its initial meeting. While Departmental funds will support the operations of the Commission, the Commission is expected to operate independently in order to provide unbiased recommendations to the President and the Congress.

### **PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES**

The bill includes \$345,000,000 in mandatory funds for the Promoting Safe and Stable Families program, which is the same as the fiscal year 2008 level and the budget request. The bill includes \$63,311,000 in discretionary funds for this program, which is the same as the fiscal year 2008 level and the budget request.

### **PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION ASSISTANCE**

The bill includes \$5,050,000,000 for Payments to States for Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, which is \$17,000,000 below the fiscal year 2008 level and \$46,000,000 below the budget request. The amount provided varies from the President's request because of the enactment of the Fostering Connections to Success and Improving Adoptions Act of 2008 and reflects updated estimates provided by the Department.